

NOTE

Lectotype Designation for *Opostega heringella* Mariani, a synonym of  
*Opostega spatulella* Herrich-Schäffer (Lepidoptera: Opostegidae)

Because an examination of the type series of *Opostega heringella* Mariani was not possible until after my synoptic catalogue of the family Opostegidae (Davis, 1989) had been accepted for publication, I wish at this time to report on the results of that study.

Mariani (1937) described *Opostega heringella* (Fig. 1) from an unspecified number of specimens collected during July in Zappulla, Sicily. He considered the species to be intermediate in color and maculation between *O. constantiniella* Costantini and *O. spatulella* Herrich-Schäffer. Through the cooperation of Marcello Arnone of the Museo Civico di Terrasini, I have been able to examine the entire series of eight male and six female syntypes of *O. heringella* and have selected as lectotype a male bearing the following labels: Sicilia, Zappulla, 5.VI.34, M. Mariani; 358; *Opogona spatulella* H. S., Rbl.

& Htg. det.; photograph on file USNM; Lectotype ♂, *Opostega heringella* Mar., by D. Davis. The remaining 13 paralectotypes were collected at the same type locality and bear the following label data: 1 ♀, 20.VI.31; 1 ♂, 20.VI.33, M. Mariani; 1 ♀, 2.VI.34, M. Mariani; 2 ♂ (♂ slide USNM 30498), 3 ♀, 5.VI.34, M. Mariani; 4 ♂, 1 ♀, 12.VI.34. Examination of the male genitalia of one of the paralectotypes has verified the earlier, unpublished determination by Rebel and Hartig as well as the recently published decision by van Nieukerken (1989) that *heringella* is a junior synonym of *spatulella*. The ground color and forewing markings of *Opostega spatulella* are highly variable, as shown in two extremes previously figured (Davis, 1989, Figs. 262 and 263). *Opostega constantiniella* was also synonymized under *spatulella* by van Nieukerken but, as noted



Fig. 1. *Opostega heringella* Mariani, lectotype.

by him, the unique female holotype of the former is believed lost (formerly in the Turati collection).

I am indebted to Marcello Arnone and the Museo Civico di Terrasini, Terrasini, Italy for the loan of the type specimens. I also wish to thank Erik J. van Nieukerken of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, Netherlands and Giorgio Baldizzone of Asti, Italy for assisting me in locating the type depository of *O. heringella*.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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